

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/707,508

Examiner

Fadey S. Jabr

Applicant(s)

RYAN ET AL.

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10/11/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/21/07, 10/10/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Prosecution History

Claims 1-25 remain pending and are allowed for at least the reasons below.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-25 are allowed over the prior art of record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of record is Ogg et al., Pub. No. US2005/0278266 A1 and Shuster, U.S. Patent No. 6,389,458 B2.

Ogg et al. discloses allowing a registered client of the on-line postage system to send a request for authorization to print a desired amount of postage. Ogg et al. discloses special label stock to protect against the fraudulent production of computer-based postage stamps. Further, Ogg et al. discloses a system which allows a user to print sample postage and the actual postage.

Shuster teaches a user computer displaying HTML frame and hidden frames in a browser. The second frame, the hidden frame, is not visible to the user. The hidden frame is however maintained as a frame with the user's browser.

As per **Claim** , the closest prior art of record taken either individually or in combination with other prior art of records fails to teach or suggest a method comprising providing data to the client system for forming at least a portion of a sample image to a portion of a program display window in the client system that is visible to the user, *wherein the sample image is of similar type as the first image; providing data to the client system for forming at least a portion of the*

Application/Control Number:
10/707,508
Art Unit: 3628

Page 3

first image to a portion of the client system program display window that is not visible to the user..

Claims 2-25 depend from claim 1, and are therefore allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fadey S. Jabr whose telephone number is (571) 272-1516. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/707,508
Art Unit: 3628

Page 4

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Fadey S Jabr
Examiner
Art Unit 3628

FSJ

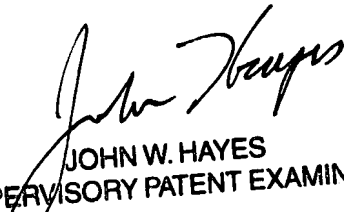
Please address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) as follows:

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231**

or faxed to:

(571) 273-1516 [Informal/Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314


**JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. George Macdonald on 8 November 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for deterring duplicate printing of a first image comprising:
receiving a request relating to the first image from a client system;
providing data to the client system for forming at least a portion of a sample image to a portion of a program display window in the client system that is visible to the user, wherein the sample image is of a similar type as the first image; and
providing data to the client system for forming at least a portion of the first image to a portion of the client system program display window that is not visible to the user;
receiving an indication of a print request relating to the first image;
determining whether a threshold of print failures has been reached; and
providing an indication that the print request is invalid after the threshold of print failures has been reached.

2. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the first image comprises a shipping label having a postage indicia comprising a postage indicia code;

the sample image comprises a sample shipping label having a sample postage indicia;

the client system comprises a web browser application;

the web browser application provides a visible portion of a page for displaying a first frame including the sample image;

the web browser application provides a non visible portion of the page for receiving a second frame including the first image; and

the data provided to the client system program is provided by a first web server.

3. (previously amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the sample shipping label includes a sample indicator and wherein the web browser application automatically closes the display window within a first period of time after the display window is launched.

4. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
providing formatting instructions to the client system, wherein
the formatting instructions prevent user access to the second frame.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing formatting instructions to the client system, wherein
the formatting instructions prevent user access to a non-visible portion of the client system program window.

6. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein:
the sample image is an image file using an image file format selected from the group: GIF, BMP, TIFF, JPEG, PIX, PNG and PCX; and
the sample indicator comprises an indication to the user that the label is not valid for postage.

7. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein:
the sample indicator comprises an overlay for obscuring the postage indicia of the sample label.
8. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein:
the sample image has the same dimensions as the first image.
9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the sample image comprises the first image and a superimposed sample indicator.
10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing a first logic indicator in the visible portion of the client system program window for receiving an indication of a sample print request associated with the sample image; and
providing a second logic indicator in the visible portion of the client system program window for receiving an indication of a non-sample print request associated with the first image.
11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
receiving at least one print success indicator from a user indicating whether the non-sample print request was successful.
12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
determining whether the received at least one print success indicator indicates ~~indicators indicate~~ that a threshold of print failures has been reached; and
if the threshold of print failures has been reached, providing an indication that the print request is invalid.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein:
the first logic indicator and second logic indicator are presented in a second visible frame.

14. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein:
the first image includes image portions obtained from a second web server; and
the sample image comprises image portions obtained from a second web server.

15. (previously amended) The method of claim 4 wherein
the formatting instructions prevent scrolling and resizing of the client system program window, thereby preventing user access to the second frame.

16. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the first image comprises a document of value;
the sample image comprises a sample document of value;
the client system program comprises a web browser application;
the web browser application provides a visible portion of a page for displaying a first frame including the sample image;
the web browser application provides a non visible portion of the page for receiving a second frame including the first image; and
the data provided to the client system is provided by a first web server.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein
the document of value comprises a document selected from the group: ticket, receipt, article, report, financial instrument and contract.

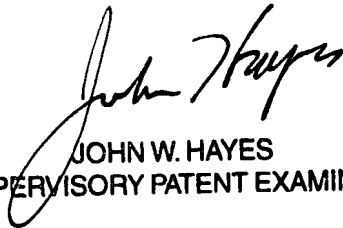
18. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the sample image includes a sample indicator.

19. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the first image comprises a document of value;
the sample image comprises an image related to the document of value;
the client system comprises a web browser application;
the web browser application provides a visible portion of a page for displaying a first frame including the sample image;
the web browser application provides a non visible portion of the page for receiving a second frame including the first image; and
the data provided to the client system is provided by a first web server.
20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein
the sample image is a portion of the document of value.
21. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein
the sample image is an article abstract.
22. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program display window that is not visible to the user.
23. (original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.
24. (original) The method of claim 16 further comprising:
providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.
25. (original) The method of claim 19 further comprising:

Application/Control Number:
10/707,508
Art Unit: 3628

Page 10

providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.



JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER